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TAGS: [PGOV](#) [ELAB](#) [KDEM](#) [ASEC](#) [GV](#)
SUBJECT: CITIZENS BREATHE SIGH OF RELIEF

REF: CONAKRY 0007

¶1. (U) Following the announcement of a negotiated agreement between Guinea,s labor unions and the Guinean Government (septel), there was an audible sigh of relief heard throughout the country. Over the past week, there has been an almost tangible cloud of uncertainty and anxiety hanging over citizens as people worried about the possible negative economic and social effects of a strike) as well as the potential for renewed political violence. Local press carried a number of reports on January 10 alluding to reduced political tension. In addition, contacts throughout the country told LES staff that they are happy the strike is suspended and look forward to continuing the political dialogue. The streets of Conakry were quiet throughout the day with no civil disturbances. Businesses were open as usual and students were in the schools.

COMMENT

¶2. (SBU) The immediate political crisis spurred by a series of decisions made independently by the PM and the President last week (reftel) seems to have been averted. However, Guinea,s developing political drama will continue to evolve in the weeks and months ahead. Calmer heads seemed to have prevailed this time around and that may help set the stage for resolving ongoing issues. END COMMENT.
CARTER